

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Monday, June 08, 2009

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### **DEADLINE DRAWS NEAR TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAYOR'S ANNUAL ACCESS AND INCLUSION AWARDS**

INDIANAPOLIS – The Mayor's Advisory Council on Disability announced today that there is less than a week left to nominate individuals, businesses and organizations for its annual Access and Inclusion Awards.

The Access and Inclusion Awards recognize individuals and organizations that support diversity and the inclusion of persons with disabilities in Indianapolis. Nomination applications are due Friday, June 12, 2009. Interviews of finalists will take place the week of June 22. Winners will be recognized by Mayor Ballard mid day on July 9 at the Indianapolis Artsgarden. This year's ceremony is very special, as we also welcome the National Organization on Disability as Indianapolis is presented the 2009 Accessible America Award.

There are three awards for which individuals, businesses and organizations can be nominated:

- 2009 James Pauley Lifetime Service Award: Established in memory of James K. Pauley, the recipient of this award is an individual who demonstrates outstanding contributions promoting the inclusion and independence of persons with disabilities.
- 2009 Accessibility Award: Designed to recognize individuals, businesses and organizations that have made exceptional contributions to ensure persons with disabilities can participate in events, programs and activities offered in Indianapolis. Contributions to any and all aspects of community life such as in art, culture, recreation, leisure, commerce, travel, worship and social life will be considered.
- 2009 Employer Award: Designed to recognize individuals, businesses and organizations that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to providing training and career opportunities to persons with disabilities that promote inclusion.

To receive a copy of the application, please contact Juli Paini, Indianapolis Office of Disability Affairs, 200 East Washington Street, Room 2460, Indianapolis, IN 46204; Tx. 327-3798; Fax ATTN: 327-4577; email [jpaini@indygov.org](mailto:jpaini@indygov.org).

There is no limit on the number of nominations an individual, business or organization can submit; however, applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 12, 2009 for consideration.

In addition, businesses and organizations are invited to be part of the Awareness Day festivities. Exhibit reservations are limited; forms can be requested by contacting Juli Paine at 327-3798 or at [jpaine@indygov.org](mailto:jpaine@indygov.org).

The Mayor's Council on Council on Disability promotes the inclusion and empowerment of people with disabilities within the Indianapolis community, and advises the Mayor and city administration on issues that impact people with disabilities.

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